

Improving Criminal Justice Responses to Mental Illness in South Dakota: Accomplishments and Next Steps

Oversight Council

April 2019

Task Force on Community Justice and Mental Illness Early Intervention

Argus Leader.

Competency delays threaten defendants' legal rights

Mark Walker, mwalker@argusleader.com

Published 9:09 p.m. CT Nov. 15, 2015 | Updated 7:54 a.m. CT Nov. 16, 2015

"Leading a legal challenge of South Dakota practices could help defendants under the right circumstances."

How court-ordered competency evaluations work

mwalker@argusleader.com

Published 6:26 p.m. CT Nov. 14, 2015 | Updated 9:32 p.m. CT Nov. 14, 2015

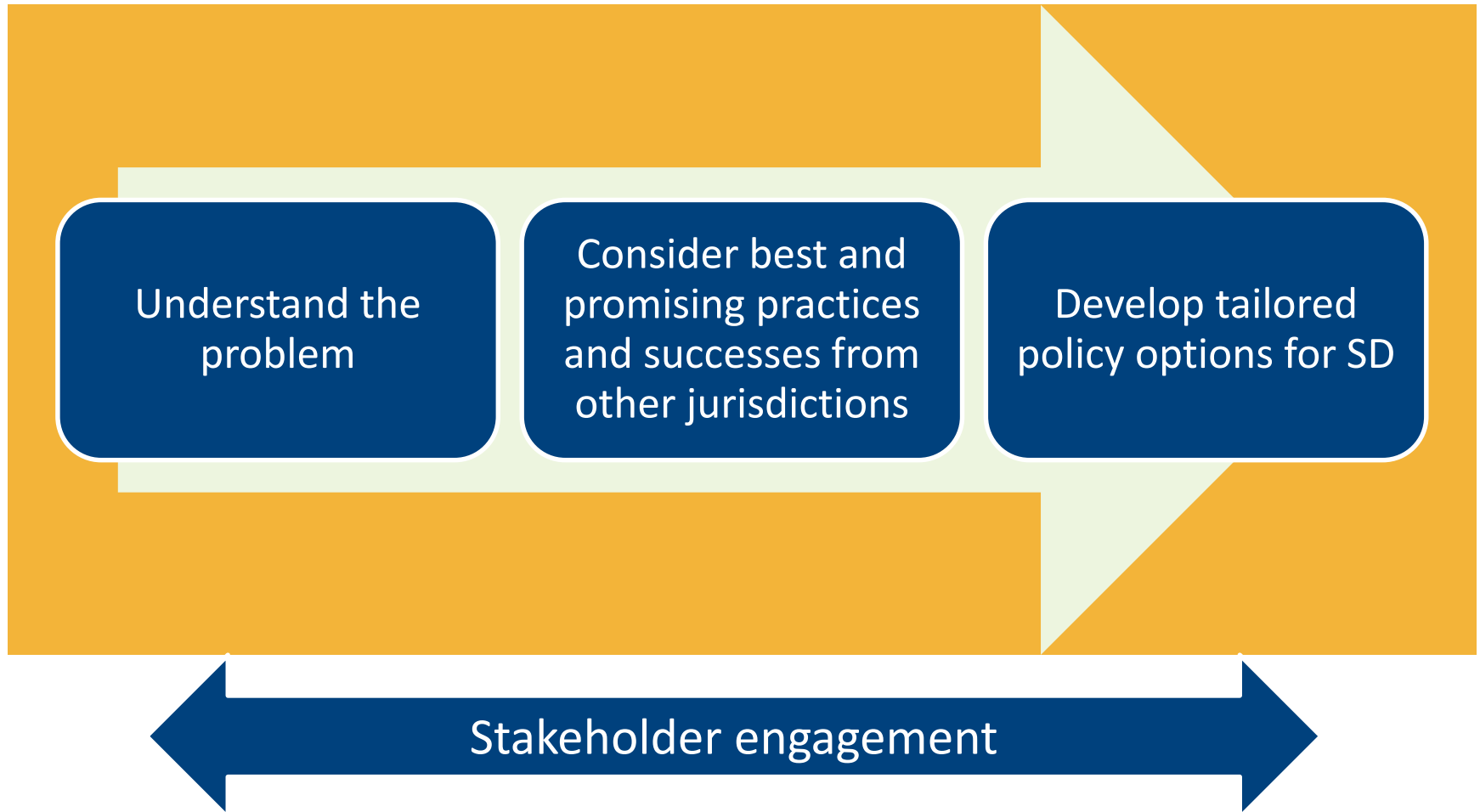
Mentally ill overwhelming budgets for courts, jails

Mark Walker, mwalker@argusleader.com

Published 9:20 p.m. CT Nov. 15, 2015 | Updated 7:58 a.m. CT Nov. 16, 2015

A backlog of court-ordered competency evaluations at South Dakota's state mental hospital is forcing counties to pay five to ten times more for exams by private psychiatrists.

Task Force on Community Justice and Mental Illness Early Intervention



HB 1183

State of South Dakota

**NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017**

492Y0595

HOUSE BILL NO. 1183

Introduced by: Representatives Johns, Beal, Brunner, Chase, Glanzer, Haggar, Haugaard, Jensen (Kevin), Johnson, Lake, Lust, McPherson, Mickelson, Peterson (Kent), Qualm, Rhoden, Rounds, Rozum, Soli, Stevens, Tieszen, and Zikmund and Senators Solano and Rusch

Accomplishments

Address Mental Health Crisis and Prevent Jail Admissions: Tools for Law Enforcement



Statewide CIT
Coordinator

Online CIT training
collaboration

Increased crisis response
training hours for new
law enforcement officers

Identify Mental Illness Early: Jail Mental Health Screening and Data Collection

Correctional Mental Health Screen for Men (CMHS-M)

Name _____ Last, First, MI	Detainee # _____	Date ____/____/____ mm/dd/year	Time ____:____
--------------------------------------	-------------------------	--	-----------------------

QUESTIONS	NO	YES	COMMENTS
1. Have you ever had worries that you just can't get rid of?			
2. Some people find their mood changes frequently - as if they spend everyday on an emotional roller coaster. Does this sound like you?			
3. Do you get annoyed when friends or family complain about their problems? Or do people complain that you're not sympathetic to their problems?			
4. Have you ever felt like you didn't have any feelings, or felt distant or cut off from other people or from your surroundings?			
5. Has there ever been a time when you felt so irritable that you found yourself shouting at people or starting fights or arguments?			
6. Do you often get in trouble at work or with friends because you act excited at first but then lose interest in projects and don't follow through?			
7. Do you tend to hold grudges or give people the silent treatment for days at a time?			
8. Have you ever tried to avoid reminders, or to not think about, something terrible that you experienced or witnessed?			
9. Has there ever been a time when you felt depressed most of the day for at least 2 weeks?			
10. Have you ever been troubled by repeated thoughts, feelings, or nightmares about something you experienced or witnessed?			
11. Have you ever been in a hospital for non-medical reasons such as in a psychiatric hospital? (Do NOT include going to an Emergency Room if you were not hospitalized.)			
12. Have you ever felt constantly on guard or watchful even when you didn't need to, or felt jumpy and easily startled?			

**13% of jail bookings
indicated a mental health
assessment may be
warranted**

Brown
Charles Mix
Codington
Faulk
Hughes
Minnehaha
Pennington

Expedite Competency Evaluations: County Fund and More Evaluators

Reimbursement to counties totals more than \$45,000 in 1st year

Bennett	Meade
Brown	Minnehaha
Dewey	Pennington
Lake	Tripp
Hughes	



From 6 known evaluators to more than 30, allowing for statewide coverage

Improve Access to Treatment: Train Stakeholders

**South Dakota is
the only state
known to require
mental health
training for every
criminal justice
stakeholder group**

Law Enforcement
State's Attorneys
Public Defenders
Judges
Jail Corrections Officers
State Corrections Officers
Court Services Officers

Next Steps

Oversight Council Next Steps

- Support efforts to enhance crisis response
- Encourage early identification of serious mental illness
 - Improve collaboration between jails and providers
- Continue to examine and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the competency to stand trial process
 - Other priorities?